

REMARKS

I. Amendments to the Specification

The allowance of pending claims 86-111 is gratefully acknowledged. However, upon review of the file history by the undersigned Attorney for Applicants on March 30, 2009 in connection with the Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. § 154(b) that was mailed with the Notice of Allowability on December 31, 2008, it was noticed that: (a) the proper continuity data was included on the Transmittal Letter filed on September 8, 2003, which indicated that each application was incorporated by reference in its entirety, but was not thereafter submitted by way of Amendment or Application Data Sheet as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(b)(3); (b) no Official Filing Receipt was ever mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; and (c) the above-referenced patent application published as U.S. Publication No. 2004-0131609A1 and listed the correct continuity data on the face of the published document (*i.e.*, a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/771,415, filed January 26, 2001, which claims the benefit of U.S. Serial No. U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/178,426, filed January 27, 2000).

As such, due to the conflicting information in the file, Applicants have amended the specification herein to confirm and update the claim to priority, and Applicants are also filing concurrently herewith a Petition to Accept an Unintentionally Delayed Claim for Priority Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78, with provisions for the required fees. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Entry of this amendment and grant of the Petition filed herewith is respectfully requested.

II. Request for Filing Receipt

Since a Filing Receipt has not yet been received in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants request that the Patent Office issue a Filing Receipt listing that the above-identified application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/771,415, filed January 26, 2001 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,656,467), which claims the benefit of U.S. Serial No. U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/178,426, filed January 27, 2000.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is (again) in condition for immediate allowance. If the Examiner disagrees, it is requested that the Examiner call the undersigned at the number listed below to arrange a telephone interview to expedite prosecution of the application.

Applicants believe no additional fees are due in connection with this Amendment. However, if there are any other fees due, please charge them to Jones Day Deposit Account 50-3013. Also, please charge any fees underpaid or credit any fees overpaid to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: March 31, 2009

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